

where necessary. But increasingly in this new era, we will need to work with an array of multinational partners, often in new arrangements. You have proved again that that is possible. You have proved again that our involvement in multilateral efforts need not be open-ended or ill-defined, that we can go abroad and accomplish some distinct objectives, and then come home again when the mission is accomplished.

Some will ask why, if the cold war ended, we must still support the world's greatest military forces, the kind that General Johnston and his comrades represent. I say it is because we still have interests; we still face threats; we still have responsibilities. The world has not seen the end of evil, and America can lead other countries to share more of the responsibilities that they ought to be shouldering.

Some will ask why we must so often be the one to lead. Well, of course we cannot be the

world's policeman, but we are, and we must continue to be, the world's leader. That is the job of the United States of America. And so today, America opens its arms in a hearty welcome home.

General, to you and all the men and women who served with you, you have the admiration of the world and the thanks of your country for continuing the tradition of our Armed Forces and the values that make us proud to be Americans and for proving that we can lead and serve in new ways in a new world.

In the words of the Scriptures: Blessed are the peacemakers. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:37 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Lt. Gen. Robert B. Johnston, USMC, commander, Operation Restore Hope.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders May 5, 1993

Bosnia

Q. Mr. President, will you be going to Congress to get authorization before any troops would be sent to Bosnia?

The President. We're here consulting about Bosnia today, and I have been extensively consulting, and no decision has been made by this administration about this yet. So when I do, then we'll continue to have proper process.

Q. Do you think the War Powers Act is constitutional?

The President. Ask my lawyer. I don't play lawyer. I think it's worked reasonably well.

Q. How do you think the vote will go in the Serb parliament?

The President. I don't know. I hope they'll not only vote for it, I hope they'll observe it, which is two different issues. We have to start our meeting here in a minute, but I think one

of the things that we have to discuss is that we want an agreement in words and an agreement in fact. And that's what we've got to watch.

Q. Are you feeling any comfort in what Mr. Christopher is saying? It sounds as though he's running into roadblocks.

The President. No, I talked to him several times since he's been on the trip. I'm pretty pleased, actually, with the progress he's made. We're in a much different place and much nearer agreement than we were 10 or 12 days ago.

Q. Have you and Senator Dole made up?

The President. Absolutely. I agree with what he said yesterday.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.